Sl. No.	Locations	SPM 24 Hrs. Avg	RSPM 24 Hrs. Avg.	RSPM as % of SPM
8.	I.A.R.I	269	150	55.8
9.	Moti Nagar	629	249	39.6
10.	Raja Garden	1448	387	26.7
11.	I.T.O.	292	168	57.5
12.	I.T.O.	471	217	46.1
13.	Azad Market	830	329	39.6
14.	I.S.B.T.	509	222	43.6
15.	Shyamlal College	969	449	46.3
16.	Azadpur	1084	376	34.7
17.	Delhi Gate	683	265	38.8
18.	Delhi Gate	730	265	36.3
19.	AI.I.M.S.	813	230	28.3
20.	Old Delhi Rly. Station	865	320	37.0
21.	Nehru Place	468	205	43.8
22.	Minto Road	801	310	38.7
	Range	269—1448	150—553	26.7—57.5
	Mean	766	303	41.1

SPM=Suspended Particulate Matter
RSPM=Respirable Particulate Matter

Stock Position of Wheat and Rice

2821. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's stock position of wheat and rice, as on 1st April, 1999, is expected to be at least 20.8 million tonnes, against the buffer requirement of 15.8 million tonnes, as reported in the Statesman dated 30th March, 1999;

(b) if so, what is the present storage capacity of foodgrains in the country, State-wise, during the last three years; and

(c) what steps Government have taken so far, for safe storage of five million tonnes of extra wheat and rice expected this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) The stock position of rice and wheat as on 1.4.1999 is expected to be 11.62 million tonnes and 9.30 million tonnes against the buffer norm of 11.80 million tonnes of rice and 4.00 million tonnes of wheat respectively.

(b) The total storage capacity (owned + hired + CAP) available with Food Corporation of India (FCI) as on 1.3.1999 is 23.47 million tonnes. Statement showing the storage capacity available with FCI during the last three years is indicated at enclosed statement (*See* below)

(c) The storage capacity available with FCI is sufficient to maintain buffer stocks for PDS.

Statement

The Storage Capacity (owned and hired/covered and Cap), available with the food Corporation of India during the last three years.

(Fig. in '000' tonnes)

Year (as on 31/3)	Covered			Cap (Open)			Grand Total
	Owned	Hired	Total	Owned	Hired	Total	
1995-96	12413.50	8252.35	20665.85	1602.46	4141.94	5744.40	26410.25
1996-97	12422.67	7053.58	19476.25	1493.62	1672.42	3166.04	22642.29
1997-98	12433.43	6726.05	19159.48	1553.35	1656.29	3209.64	22369.12

Delicensing Sugar Import

2822. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Times of India, (Ahmedabad) dated the 28th November, 1998 under the caption, Delicensing imports may cripple State's sugar industry;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether import of sugar under OGL will pose a serious threat to the Gujarat State's sugar industry run by farmers' co-operatives;

(d) whether the National Federation of Sugar Industry in Gujarat has taken up the matter with the Central Government for protection of the interests of the farmers; and

(e) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the news report, it has been mentioned, inter-alia, that the imports of sugar under OGL have posed a serious threat to the State's Sugar Industry and cooperative sector is perturbed over the delicensing of sugar as the big industrial houses could jeopardise the existing network of farmers cooperatives.

(c) No, Sir. Imports of sugar under OGL are unlikely to pose any serious threat to Gujarat's Sugar Industry.

(d) and (e) Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA) and National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories (NFCSF) have represented to the Government to increase the customs duty on imports of sugar to 50%. The Government has increased the customs duty on import of sugar thrice in the financial year 1998-99. On 28.4.98, Government imposed a basic customs duty of 5% and countervailing duty of Rs. 850/- per tonne on imports of sugar. On 14.1.99, Government increased the customs duty on imports of sugar from 5% to 20%. With the change in customs duty rate structure in the Budget Proposals for the financial year 1999-2000, the customs duty on imports of sugar stands revised to 25% along with surcharge of 10% with effect from 28.2.99. The countervailing duty of Rs. 850/- per tonne will also continue.

Storage shortage for Kharif Crop

2823. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a serious storage shortage for the coming Kharif crop;